

Message Text

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51

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1064

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN NATO SYMPOSIA AND EXERCISES

AT PERMREPS LUNCH ON FEBRUARY 25, FRENCH PERMREP DE ROSE RECALLED THAT EACH YEAR HE RECEIVES AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN SHAPEX AND THAT EACH YEAR CIRCUMSTANCES HAD MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO ATTEND. IN 1973, HE HAD FOUND IT POSSIBLE TO ATTEND THE SACLANT'S SYMPOSIUM AT ANNAPOLIS AND NO ONE HAD LEAPED TO THE CONCLUSION THAT FRANCE WAS ABOUT TO RETURN ITS FORCES TO THE INTEGRATED STRUCTURE OF THE ALLIANCE. THIS YEAR, DUE TO THE NATURE OF THE SUBJECT BEING DEALT WITH AT SHAPEX 75, ONE THAT IS ACTUALLY UNDER CONSIDERATION IN THE NAC WHERE FRANCE PARTICIPATES FULLY, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO ATTEND THE SESSIONS, THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR SAID. A NUMBER OF PERMREPS EXPRESSED THEIR APPRECIATION. DE ROSE ASKED THEM NOT TO HIGHLIGHT THE MATTER SINCE PUBLICITY COULD BE UNHELPFUL TO HIM AND MIGHT CREATE MIS-UNDERSTANDINGS IN FRANCE.

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